

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A keyed filler panel assembly comprising:

- a filler panel body; and

5 a handle element integral with said filler panel body, said handle element fixedly coupled with said filler panel body, said handle element adapted to provide a grasping surface above said filler panel body to provide removably coupling of said filler panel body with respect to a chassis.

- 10 2. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 1, wherein said handle element is extruded from said filler panel body.

3. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 1 further comprising:  
an electromagnetic interference (EMI) shield portion coupled with

15 said filler panel body, said EMI shield portion adapted to prevent EMI leakage from said chassis.

4. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 1 further comprising:  
an attaching device adapted to be coupled with said filler panel body,

20 said attaching device for removably coupling said filler panel body with said chassis in accordance with a compact peripheral component interconnect (CPCI) standard.

5. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 4, wherein said handle

25 element does not destructively interfere with said attaching device coupled with said filler panel body.

6. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 1 further comprising:

- an attaching device adapted to be coupled with said filler panel body,

30 said attaching device for removably coupling said filler panel body with said chassis in accordance with a VersaModular Eurocard (VME) standard.

7. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 6, wherein said handle

35 element does not destructively interfere with said attaching device coupled with said filler panel body.

8. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 1 wherein said handle element is comprised of:

a base portion; and

a head portion fixedly coupled with said base portion, said head portion being disposed above said base portion in a manner which provides a grasping surface for removably coupling said filler panel body with respect to said chassis.

9. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 8 wherein said handle element is integral with said filler panel body such that said base portion is flush with said filler panel body.

10. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 8 wherein said handle element further comprises:

said head portion having a recess portion therein.

11. A method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis comprising:

a) integrating a handle element with a filler panel body, said handle element fixedly coupled with said filler panel body, said handle element adapted to provide a grasping surface above said filler panel body to provide removably coupling of said filler panel body with respect to a chassis; and

b) securing said filler panel body to said chassis using an attaching device.

12. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 11 wherein said step a) further comprises extruding said handle element from said filler panel body.

13. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 11 wherein said step a) further comprises said handle element having a base portion and a head portion fixedly coupled with said base portion.

14. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 11 wherein said step a) further comprises said handle element having a base portion flush with said filler panel body.

15. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 11 wherein said step a) further comprises said handle element having a head portion with a recess portion therein.

16. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 11 wherein said step b) further comprises utilizing said attaching device to removably couple said filler panel body with said chassis in accordance with a compact peripheral component interconnect (CPCI) standard, wherein said handle element does not destructively interfere with said attaching device.

17. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 11 wherein said step b) further comprises utilizing said attaching device to removably couple said filler panel body with said chassis in accordance with a VersaModular Eurocard (VME) standard, wherein said handle element does not destructively interfere with said attaching device.

18. A keyed filler panel assembly comprising:  
a filler panel body;  
a locating element coupled to said filler panel body, said locating element adapted to orient said filler panel body with respect to a chassis such that interference generating movement of said filler panel body is reduced; and

a handle element integral with said filler panel body, said handle element fixedly coupled with said filler panel body, said handle element adapted to provide a grasping surface above said filler panel body to provide removably coupling of said filler panel body with respect to said chassis.

19. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 18, wherein said handle element is extruded from said filler panel body.

20. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 18 further comprising:  
an electromagnetic interference (EMI) shield portion coupled with said filler panel body, said EMI shield portion adapted to prevent EMI leakage from said chassis.

21. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 18 further comprising:  
an attaching device adapted to be coupled with said filler panel body,  
said attaching device for removably coupling said filler panel body with said  
chassis.

22. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 21, wherein said handle  
element does not destructively interfere with said attaching device coupled  
with said filler panel body.

23. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 18, wherein said locating  
element is coupled to said filler panel body at a location such that said  
locating element will insert into a mounting hole disposed on said chassis  
in accordance with a compact peripheral component interconnect (CPCI)  
standard.

24. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 18, wherein said locating  
element is coupled to said filler panel body at a location such that said  
locating element will insert into a mounting hole disposed on said chassis  
in accordance with a VersaModular Eurocard (VME) standard.

25. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 18 wherein said locating  
element is comprised of:

a head portion;

an insertion portion coupled to said head portion, said insertion  
portion adapted to be inserted into an opening in said chassis to reduce said  
interference generating movement of said filler panel body with respect to  
said chassis, said locating element coupled to said filler panel body such that  
said head portion is flush with said filler panel body.

26. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 25 wherein said locating  
element is further comprised of:

a retention portion coupled to said head portion, said retention  
portion adapted to enhance coupling of said locating element and said filler  
panel body.

27. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 18, wherein said handle element is comprised of:

a base portion; and

a head portion fixedly coupled with said base portion, said head

5 portion being disposed above said base portion in a manner which provides a grasping surface for removably coupling said filler panel body with respect to said chassis, said handle element extruded from said filler panel body such that said base portion is flush with said filler panel body.

10 28. The keyed filler panel assembly of Claim 27 wherein said handle element further comprises:

said head portion having a recess portion therein.

15 29. A method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis comprising:

a) integrating a handle element with a filler panel body, said handle element fixedly coupled with said filler panel body, said handle element adapted to provide a grasping surface above said filler panel body to provide removably coupling of said filler panel body with respect to a chassis;

20 b) inserting a locating element coupled to a filler panel body into a mounting hole of a chassis, said locating element adapted to orient said filler panel body with respect to said chassis such that interference generating movement of said filler panel body is reduced; and

25 c) securing said filler panel body to said chassis using an attaching device.

30 30. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 29 wherein said step a) further comprises extruding said handle element from said filler panel body.

31. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 29 wherein said step a) further comprises said handle element having a base portion and a head portion fixedly coupled with said base portion.

35 32. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 29 wherein said step a) further comprises said handle element having a base portion flush with said filler panel body.

33. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 29 wherein said step a) further comprises said handle element having a head portion with a recess portion therein.

34. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 29 wherein said step b) comprises inserting said locating element into said mounting hole wherein said mounting hole is disposed on said chassis in accordance with a compact peripheral component interconnect (CPCI) standard.

35. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 29 wherein said step b) comprises inserting said locating element into said mounting hole wherein said mounting hole is disposed on said chassis in accordance with a VersaModular Eurocard (VME) standard.

36. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 29 wherein said step b) comprises inserting said locating element having a head portion and an insertion portion coupled to said head portion into said mounting hole.

37. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 36 wherein said step b) comprises inserting said locating element having a head portion flush with said filler panel body into said mounting hole.

38. The method to simplify removable coupling of a filler panel body with respect to a chassis as recited in Claim 36 wherein said step b) comprises inserting said locating element including a retention portion coupled to said head portion into said mounting hole.